State of Global Fisheries and Implications for Human Nutrition





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I believe that the cod fishery, the herring fishery, the pilchard fishery, the mackerel fishery, and probably all the great seafisheries are inexhaustible; that is to say, nothing we can do seriously affects the number of fish.

> Thomas Huxley 1825-95



Status of Global Fisheries



http://www.fao.org/fi/statist/snapshot/01vs00/01vs00.asp

Historical overfishing in marine systems



Jackson et al. 2001. Science



Coral Reef Ecosystems



The Sliding Baseline Syndrome

"...each generation of fisheries scientists accepts as a baseline the stock size and species composition that occurred at the beginning of their careers and uses this to evaluate changes."

Pauly (1995) TREE 10:430



FIGURE 17. FISHING DOWN: WHAT IT ACTUALLY MEANS.

Fishing down marine food webs means that the fisheries (blue arrow), having at first removed the larger fishes at the top of various food chains, must target fishes lower and lower down, and end up targeting very small fishes and plankton, including jellyfish. Fishing down marine food webs in the North Atlantic

Pauly & Maclean (2003)



North Atlantic Fish Biomass Shrinks D. Pauly and J. McLean (2003) In a Perfect Ocean











Fishing intensity (catch/biomass)



Fishing *intensity* (catch/biomass) for higher trophic level species



Rapid decline of large predatory fishes



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Direct and Indirect Effects of Fishing



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Magnitude of Bycatch Finfish ~7.3 million tons of fish per year (Kelleher 2005) Sharks, Rays, and Skates ~ 90 million in the world's fisheries (Bonfil 2000) Marine Mammals • \sim 650,000 in the world's fisheries (Read et al. 2006) **Loggerhead Turtles** ~ 200,000 in global pelagic longline fisheries (Lewison et al. 2004) **Seabirds** >300,000 including 100,000 albatrosses in longlines (Bird) Life International 2004)

Ecosystem Effects



Solutions - the Conservation Toolkit



For Whales, Dolphins and Porpoises

A World Handbook for Cetacean Habitat Conservation

Department of Comment Sin Dolphin Safe

• MPAs & Time-Area Restrictions

 Changes to Fishing **Practices or Gear**

 Bycatch Quotas Market Demand

BEST CHOICES

Abaione (farmed) Catfish (US farmed) Clams, Mussels, Oysters (farmed) Cod: Pacific Condine-caught from AK Crab: Dungeness, Snow (Canada) Halibut: Pacific Lobster: Spiny (US) Pollock (wild-caught from AK)* Rockfish: Black (CA. OR) Sablefish/Black Cod (AK, BC) Salmon (wild-caught from AK)* Sardines Shrimp: Pink (OR) Spot Prawn (BC) Striped Bass (farmed) Sturgeon, Caviar (farmed) Tilapia (US farmed) Trout: Rainbow (farmed) Tuna: Albacore, Bigeye, Yellowfin (troll/pole-caught) White Seabass

biup

Tuna: Albacore Bioeve, Yellowfin,

Tuna: canned white/Albacore!

(longline-caught)* Tuna: canned light

Basa/Tra (larmed) Chilean Seabass/Toothfish* Clams, Oysters* (wild-caught) Cod: Atlantic Cod: Pacific (trawi-caught) Crab: King (imported) Crab: King (AK), Snow (US), imitation Doofish (US)* Dogfish (BC)* Flounders, Soles (Pacific) Grenadier/Pacific Roughy Lobster: Spiny (Caribbean imported) Lingcod Lobster: American/Maine Mankfish Orange Roughy* Mahi mahi/Dolphinfish/Dorado Rockfish (hook & line caught from AK, BC) Rockfish (trawl-caught)* Salmon (farmed, including Atlantic)* Sablefish/Black Cod (CA_OR_WA) Sharks* Salmon (wild-caught from CA, OR, WA) Shrimp (imported farmed or wild-caught) Sanddabs: Pacific Sturgeon®, Caviar (imported wild-caught) Scallops: Bay, Sea Shrimp (US farmed or wild-caught) Swordfish (imported)* Tuna: Bluefin* Spot Prawn (US) AK = Alaska BC = British Columbia Sturgeon (wild-caught from OR, WA) CA = California OR = Oregon Swordfish (US) WA = Washington US = United States

AVOID

ents. Visit www

MONTEREY BAY AQUARIUM Seatood

West Coast Seafood Guide Limit consumption due to concerns about mercury 2006



Sustainable Seafood

- The Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) is an independent, global, non-profit organization that is harnessing consumer purchasing power to generate change and promote environmentally responsible stewardship.
- The MSC has developed an environmental standard for sustainable and well-managed fisheries that rewards environmentally responsible fishery management and practices. Consumers will be able to choose seafood products which have been independently assessed by MSC.

As of September 2007 there are 857 MSC-labelled seafood products sold in 34 countries worldwide. Over 7% of the world's edible wild-capture fisheries are now certified or in full assessment against the MSC standard.

How many of the world's fisheries can be certified? Will that be sufficient to meet peoples' needs?